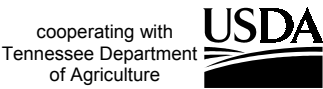




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# Agri-News

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DECEMBER 28, 2001**

**TENNESSEE HOG INVENTORY DOWN 2 PERCENT**

Tennessee’s total hog and pig inventory declined for the seventh consecutive year to a historically low 225,000 head on December 1, 2001. This was a decrease of 2 percent from December 1, 2000. Although the number of operations remained the same as last year, inventory levels are at their lowest since records began in 1867. The December 1, 2001, inventory breakdown and comparison to 2000 is as follows: breeding hogs, 30,000 head, down 14 percent; market hogs, 195,000 head, unchanged. Weight group comparisons show pigs weighing less than 60 pounds up 7 percent; 60 - 119 pounds, down 10 percent; 120 - 179 pounds, up 8 percent; and 180 pounds and over, down 9 percent from December 1, 2000.

**2001 FARROWINGS AND PIG CROP**

Tennessee producers farrowed 53,000 sows from December 2000 through November 2001, compared to 67,000 sows which farrowed during the same period a year earlier. Tennessee’s annual litter rate of 8.36 was slightly better than 2000’s annual rate of 8.28. This excellent rate produced a pig crop of 443,000 head, 20 percent less than the previous year.

**PLACES WITH HOGS TIES LAST YEAR’S RECORD LOW**

During 2001, there were 1,500 operations with one or more hogs in Tennessee (having at least one pig at any time during the period Dec. 2000 to Nov. 2001). This compares with a total of 3,000 operations 5 years ago.

**HOGS AND PIGS: NUMBER ON FARMS, TENNESSEE, DECEMBER 1, 1991-2001**

Year	Dec. 1 Inventory	Breeding	Market	Under 60 lbs.	60 - 119 lbs.	120 - 179 lbs.	180 + lbs.
1,000 Head							
1991	670	90	580	225	150	115	90
1992	600	85	515	195	120	110	90
1993	500	70	430	150	115	100	65
1994	580	75	505	190	115	110	90
1995	500	65	435	170	102	92	71
1996	400	51	349	129	85	71	64
1997	340	45	295	115	75	60	45
1998	300	40	260	120	55	40	45
1999	250	30	220	70	60	40	50
2000	230	35	195	70	50	40	35
2001	225	30	195	75	45	43	32

**(OVER)**

**HOGS AND PIGS: FARROWING AND PIG CROP, TENNESSEE, DEC. - NOV. 1991 - 2001**

Year	Sows Farrowing	% Prev. Year	Pigs Per Litter	% Prev. Year	Pig Crop	% Prev. Year
	1,000 Head		Rate Per Sow		1,000 Head	
1991	151	106	7.50	97	1,132	103
1992	145	96	7.67	102	1,112	98
1993	127	88	7.43	97	943	85
1994	127	100	7.69	104	976	103
1995	117	92	7.91	103	926	95
1996	97	83	7.88	100	764	83
1997	73	75	8.16	104	596	78
1998	80	110	8.18	100	654	110
1999	54	68	8.07	99	436	67
2000	67	124	8.28	103	555	127
2001	53	79	8.36	101	443	80

**U.S. HOG INVENTORY DOWN 1 PERCENT**

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2001, was 58.8 million head. This was 1 percent below December 2000, and slightly below September 1, 2001.

Breeding inventory, at 6.21 million head, was down 1 percent from December 1, 2000, but 1 percent above last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 52.6 million head, was 1 percent below both last year and last quarter.

The September-November 2001 U.S. pig crop, at 25.0 million head, was 1 percent less than 2000, and slightly less than 1999. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.85 million head, slightly above last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 46 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs per litter was 8.78 pigs saved per litter for the September-November 2001 period, compared to 8.85 pigs last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.40 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 8.90 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.84 million sows farrow during the December 2001-February 2002 quarter, 3 percent above the actual farrowings during the same period in 2001, and 2 percent above 2000. Intended farrowings for March-May 2002, at 2.90 million sows, are 1 percent above the same period in 2001, and up 1 percent from 2000.

The number of hog operations with hogs totaled 81,130 during 2001, down 6 percent from last year and 18 percent below 1999. Places with 2,000 or more hogs on hand accounted for 9 percent of the operations and 75 percent of the inventory. This is the sixth time operations with inventories over 2,000 head have controlled over 50 percent of the total inventory. The number of operations with over 5,000 head of inventory at, 2,204, accounted for 52.5 percent of the total inventory, up from 50.5 percent a year ago. The total number of hogs under contract, owned by these over 5,000 head operations, but raised by contractees, accounted for 33 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 30 percent last year.